SAMPLE COPY.

"OUR BOY COLLECTORS SPECIAL."

THE HOME WORKER

A Monthly Stamp Magazine.

FENTON & BOYD, PUBLISHERS, Box 25, Knoxville, Tenn., U. S. A.
Official Organ, Knoxville Philatelic Society.

NOVEMBER.

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1d black 1840 on entire letter sheet	1	0
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1gl rose certificate of posting	2	6
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6-11-96

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697, 698, 699, 704, 815, 837, 1039	"	06
702, 734, 743, 747, 797, 797, 805, 816	"	08
700, 705, 736, 744, 760, 1011, 1013, 1016	"	10
696, 701, 703, 705, 706, 708, 716, 719, 722, 723, 728, 731, 732, 735, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 745, 746, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034	"	15
697, 700, 709, 712, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034	"	20
707, 713, 719, 745, 795, 798, 802, 882	"	25
697, 710, 721, 722, 768, 770, 785, 790	"	30
750, 758, 793, 816, 826, 829, 832, 1005,	"	40
637, 696, 796, 799, 803, 804, 866, 880	"	60
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Germany, entire postals 1880 5pfg., per 100, 60c, All perfect. Cash with order. DR. W. O. EMERY,
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Cuba 20 ct., brown 1870 unused	12ct.	6ct.
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*6 "	Costa Rica,	10c
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Exchange desired in U. S. and Foreign stamps, for stamps. Want a printing press, type etc., will give good exchange in stamp papers stamps etc., or buy for cash if price is right. I make a specialty of plate nos., and can let you have some rare no's, cheap at 50 per cent off, also 60 and 75 per cent on some. Correspondence solicited. S. of P. 1370, P. S. of A. 988, etc. W. L. Kendell. Westboro, Mass. x-11-96.

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	Per 10	Per 100
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1868, 3c	08	
1869, 3c,	09	90
1870, 3c grilled	18	1 70
1872, 2c (National print)	25	2 25
3c, "	12	1 10
1873, 5c Taylor	25	
1883, 1c green	12	1 00
1887, 1c blue		30
3c vermilion, unused	75	
1888, 4c red	25	
5c blue	10	80
1890, 3c	10	95
4c	05	40
5c		30
6c	35	
8c	35	3 00
10c		40
1893, 3c	35	
4c	18	1 75
5c	20	1 90
6c	60	
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10c	25	2 25
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100 "	3.00
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In not sending for my large new price list? It is without doubt full of the greatest bargains ever offered to collectors.

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Wicks is the man you want to deal with. He has the grandest stock of

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These rare stamps are now in great demand and are increasing in value. "Get them now." 20 var. for 25c, cat val $1.50. 10 var. unused Cuba 10c. 30 var. Canadian Revenues 50c cat. value $3.50

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6-10-96

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For PROMPT Cash

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Crawfordsville - Ind.

2-10-'96

Mention The Home Worker.

THE HOME WORKER

A Monthly Stamp Magazine.

FENTON & BOYD, PUBLISHERS, Box 25, Knoxville, Tenn., U. S. A.
Official Organ, Knoxville Philatelic Society.

VOL. III. KNOXVILLE, TENN., NOVEMBER, 1896. NO. 8.

Johnny's Diary.

July 1, 1894.—Me and Willy Green are going to hustle this month and see how many new stamps we can get. He's got 820 kinds now and I've got 531, but you bet I'm going to make him hump himself to keep ahead. Collecting is dead easy in the summer, anyway, so many of the fellers get lazy and would rather go swimmin' or get a glass of soda water than a dollar's worth of stamps. I traded for four new ones today, but they didn't amount to much. Willy only got two.

July 2.—I got six new ones today. Most of them were common, but I got an old Mauritius from Ed. Wilkins. He was goin' fishin' and wanted to borrow my line. I played I wanted to go fishin' too and wouldn't let him have it until he offered me a good stamp, and I got that one. He could have sold it and bought three lines. Willy ran across a feller who wants to swop his bicycle for stamps. We're going to lay for him.

July 3.—Willy beat me today. He sold a trader for a dime and then went around and played tag with Hen Allen till he got his tongue hanging out. Then he offered to treat to soda for Hen's 6c. Justice. He got a beauty. I know a feller thats got a 2c. Exec. but he wants the earth for it. Willy and me found a stray Newfoundland dog today and hid him in our cellar. He chewed up our hosepipe awful, so we sneaked him out again and put him in Willy's woodhouse. Pop says the rats is fearful in our cellar.

July 4.—We got a dollar for finding that dog. The lady that advertised was mighty glad to get him and said we was good boys for treating him nice. We struck her for stamps and she said she'd look over her old letters and we could come back Saturday. We bought firecrackers with the dollar and did a big business all day tradin' 'em off for stamps. We got some daisies too. Willy and me didn't shoot many firecrackers, but we feel good all the same.

July 5.—We got 39 new stamps between us yesterday. That makes me 559 and Willy 848. I got that Exec. too. The feller came arund last night and we were all havin so much fun that he couldn't stand it and traded the Exec for two cannon crackers and a hunting book I had. That made Willy sick. Tomorrow we are going to see a boy who has lots of Depts. and get acquainted with him. Most of the fellers are awful short on Depts. I swopped my mouth organ to a coon today for an old watch he had. I don't know what to do with it, but it was a good trade and I guess it'll come in somewhere. That's what mom says about what she buys down town.

July 6.—Jingo, we struck luck today.

That feller had lots of good U. S. and we traded foreign for a good many. Then we got chummy with him and said we'd take him up to our private swimmin place, and show him how to have some fun with an old maid that lives on the way there, by yowlin like her cats. He was just saying how glad he was that he met us when a boy came by and made a face at him, and Willy hustled out and licked the boy in style. Then Harry (thats this boy's name) said we was the best fellers he knew, and gave us each a 24c. Navy that he had put away. Willy wanted the best 24c. because he licked the feller, but I kicked. So we tossed for it and I got it. Harry told us of another feller who was just starting and had some good traders that his uncle had sent him, so we went around on the way hime and helped him start. His uncle is in a wholesale house in New York and I got the whole set of the new Barbadoes. Willy got some fine surcharged Ceylon too.

July 7.—Willy and me went to see the lady whose dog it was this morning and she had a whole hat full of stamps for us. We had lots of them of course, but we got some fine old ones and good traders. There was three of the 1847 10c. stamps, some 1's tnd 10's of the next issue and a lot of 1869 and good envelopes, only some of them was torn. Funny folks never learn to open envelopes without tearing the stamps. We told the lady all about collecting, and while I was telling her how hard Depts. was to get, she said she had a brother who used to be in the Dep t of Justice at Washington and she'd write to him and see if he had any stamps. We felt kinder sneaky about hidin' the dog then. We're goin' to get her some pond lillies to make up for it. We went around to see Mr. Waters after we left there and traded him some of the good U. S. for a whole lot of foreign stamps, because we want to see how they pile up this week.

July 8.—Bein Sunday we havn't hustled any, but we counted up. I've got 597 and Willy's got 883. I only gained three on him but that Exec. counts a lot. Our hired girl's feller came in to see her last night and said he'd trade me a good jack plane for that watch. I'm goin to do it if his plane's any good.

July 9.—I went down and got the plane this morning and went right over to Billy Edwards with it. He's got a carpenter shop, and I swopped it to him for his old velocipede that he's got tired of. I had to give him my knife, too, but I came out ahead. When Willy came over I showed it to him and we cleaned it up nice. Then he borrowed two dollars from his aunt and we went down to a second hand mans and gave him the velocipede and the two dollars for a tricycle. I guess we can sell it to Jennie Dobbs mother. I gave Ed five fishhooks for his set of China stamps today and traded the one I had for a surcharged Gibraltar.

July 10.—Willy and me went to some offices down town today and got a lot of Columbians they've been saving for us. Its great to get on the good side of those office fellers. One of them had brought down some stamps that came on his brothers letters while he was traveling and we got some fine new ones and traders. We divided the Columbians, and Willie took his down to a dealers and traded them for a set of Tonga stamps. When he showed them to Mr. Waters this evenin he grinned and said a Tongoose was no earthly good, an the feller that bought 'em was the biggest goose in the outfit. I traded my Columbians to him for two Fiji and some France I didn't have. I got 22 new ones today and Willy only got 14 cause he got stuck on the pretty colors of those Tonga. Mr. Waters told Willy he'd be goin to see Becke next, and he and another man who was there grinned again, but I couldn't see anything funny in it. Becke is another of those fellers that gouges collectors I guess.

July 11.—Willy and me went out to visit Mrs Jennings in the country today. Its only six miles out of town, but its jolly to be there, and we had lots of fruit. I didn't think it was much use, but I asked her for stamps, and dog if she didn't get out of a closet some letters her husband had wrote her when they was first married and after she quit cryin over

them she let us take off the stamps careful. The only things good were some 1855 envelopes but we got two with straight ends and a dozen of the common ones. We got a strip of three of the first 1 cent stamps, and traded them to Mr. Waters for a 5c 1847, so we've both got the set now. After we got home we saw some of the boys and traded those envelopes off.

July 12.—Last night I dreamt the King of France came in my room and asked was I the boy who was collectin stamps, and when I said yes he went into his pocket and pulled out a slough of unused France and a lot of others and gave 'em to me. I was so tickled thinkin how mad Willy would be I nearly busted. Then I came across one awful big one with the picture of a man with a sword on it. I knew there wasn't any such stamp and I said so to the King. Then the feller on the stamp sung out "They ain't, ain't they" and hopped right out of it and swelled up. Then he piled up on the bed and began jabbin me in the stumuk with the sword till I thought I would die. The King was mad, too, and he came around and commenced kickin me and I was most dead when I woke up and found Mom and the doctor and two or three other folks there. Mom says I shant go out to Mrs. Jennings any more till I learn that green apples is good for pies and not for kids. I've been too tired all day to chase stamps, so I fixed my traders up in a book in fine shape. Willy came over and we fixed up a scheme about that tricycle.

July 13.—We saw Jenny Dobbs this morning and got her crazy for that tricycle. We teld her how cheap it was at eight dollars and she said she'd ask her mother to buy it for her. We took it down there this evenin' and Jenny's mother said she'd rather buy a whole flock of tricycles than have that child botherin' her to death the way she had been all day, and we got our eight dollars for it. Then we hustled around to the kid that wants a bicycle and talked to him. Willy asked him if he didn't think his Pa would buy him one if he paid half himself, and told him we'd give him ten dollars for his collection. He was tickled to death and went and asked his Pa, and his Pa said he would if Jack would pay half on a $25.00 wheel. That made us tired, 'cause he came back and said his collection was a daisy and he wouldn't sell it less'n $12.50. The book was mighty well worth it tho', so we did it and told him we'd give him the rest of the money Saturday, and you bet we hugged ourselves when we got away. He had 1,500 stamps nearly and we'll get more'n 400 apiece for our collections and any amount to sell and trade. They didn't cost hardly anything either, that's the beauty of it.

July 14.—We backed out of the baseball game this mornin' and went to dividin' those stamps. Gee, we did get some daisies! He had a lot of good U. S., nearly all of the Ags. and Navy, the 2c. and 3c. Exec. all the Interior, War P. O., some State and Treasury and some elegant foreign stamps, besides the common ones. We found a New South Wales big shilling watermarked 8. I asked Willy should we count watermarks in dividing, and he said no it would be too much bother huntin' for 'em, so I took that one. Mr. Waters hasn't got it either. I've been sticking stamps in my book all evening and I guess I'll dream about 'em again tonight.

July 15.—Willy and me got together after church and counted up again. I've got 1,181 kinds and he's got 1,329 as near as we can tell. It's awful hard to count a collection straight. Willy can't figure how I caught up so and got as good stamps as he did too. I'll beat him or bust this month.

July 16.—We got even with that dealer today. The 7c. Navy in that book was tore in the middle and was blotted there too, so we put a three cent one under it and cut a hole out with Pop's razor and put it in the hole and smoothed it down nice. Then we put it in a blank book with some other U. S. and pasted them in so he couldn't see the back and sold them to that feller for $5.50. We was tickled to death when he didn't catch it, for he has cheated us lots of times. We paid the $4.50 we owed and have a dollar left for a snap. We're goin' to buy this town some day.

July 17.—Neither one of us got a

stamp all day. Willy was going to trade Joe Morseman a half penny Malta for a first issue Gibralter when a feller he didn't know came along and said don't you do it, to Joe. Willy wants me to help lick the kid, but I don't see that he did anything to me. It's mean to go back on a pard tho', and I guess I'll help if he needs it.

July 18.—That dollar came in fine to-day. Jim Williams is goin' away for a week and came over and said he'd give us our pick of twenty stamps for 15c. each. We bet him down to twenty for $2.50 and then soaked him. We get three New Zealand revenue used for postage and two Victoria, a 1 shilling Cape and some old Canada. We divided even on them and mine list at $6.80. I borrowed the money from Pop to finish paying him.

July 19.—Willy got a couple of good ones to-day, but I didn't get a thing. I guess it's just as well, for I wanted a chance to stick in my new ones and fix up things. I took that first set of Samoa out of the book, and I believe I know where I can trade them off That dealer out West says they're good but I'd rather collect something that ain't so hard to prove.

July 20.—We went way over to the other end of town to-day and tackled every fellow we met about stamps. We had a scrap with two fellows that said we was fresh, and my nose is right sore, but you bet they both feel like funerals. We managed to find some collectors and did a good deal of trading I found a 7c. grilled in one feller's album and traded him that set of Samoa for it. He said he didn't think much of grills anyway. We struck one fellow who said what good was old stamps, and after we talked to him he said he was going to take a look at his grandmother's stuff and would sell us stamps if he got any.

July 21.—We met that feller that broke up Willy's trade while were goin swimmin today. Willy picked up a chunk of mud and started to interview him, but the baby backed right down and cried, so Willy said he would let him off for some of his traders. The kid was glad to do it and Willy took two St. Helenas and a Uraguay. I felt green because Willy didn't have to divide of course.

July 22.— We counted up again today. I've got 1,207 and Willy's got 1,349. That ain't catching up much. I've got to think up a scheme. I wish I could sell some of my books. That feller I got the Exec from would trade his vest for a good book.

July 23.—That kid that was goin to look over those old letters did it yesterday and came around this morning with some stuff that made our eyes stick out. There was four of those N. Y. 3c. blue stamps and some good locals with a lot of other U. S. We was in a box for a minute, for we didn't have a cent, but while the feller was looking at my album I got Willy in the corner and said "After we make a bargin you take two of the N. Y.'s and the locals and leg it for that stamp dealers and get what you can for them. See what the locals are worth first. Then we offered the kid twenty dollars for the stamps and he nearly died with surprise and was mighty willing. I asked him and Willy to come out and play awhile but Willy said he'd have to go, so he sneaked the stamps and put out. The kid was nearly crazy to go home before Willy got back. He sold the stamps for $21.00 so we paid the kid his $20.00 and let him go. Then maybe we didn't dance. We kept the other New Yorks and after supper went down and traded Mr. Waters some of others and some more to a friend of his there. Mr. Waters said we was the most hustlin kids he ever saw. All it takes is a little nerve and get up tho.'

July 24.—I couldn't hardly sleep last night for thinkin of what we got. Pop says he's goin to hide my stamps till I cool down, and that it's all foolishness anyway. Then I told him about the trade we did yesterday, and he just said Huh! but when he thot I was gone to sleep on the lounge he told Mom I was coming up a darn sight better than he'd expected I would. That made me feel good too. I don't want him to think I'm a chump.

July 25.—I got onto my scheme today. I went down to a second-hand book store and priced a lot of books and took the names down. Then I went to see the boy who likes to read so much

and got him wild telling him about the books I knew a feller who had. I asked him what he would take in those books for his collection. He wouldn't sell it all, but offered me my pick of forty stamps for four of the books he wanted most. I ran him up to forty-five stamps and then went and borrowed the four dollars and fifteen cents that the books came to from Pop at the office. He looked mighty funny at me and then at the clerks there, but he gave it to me, so I got the books and then got my stamps. I put a lot of the ones I had with some others on a sheet and I guess I can sell them to pay Pop. I got twenty-three new ones and they catalog way up. Some fellers certainly are chumps. That kid would trade his right to grow whiskers when he is a man for a good book.

July 26.—I knocked Willy out yesterday. That forty stamps helped mightily. He only has 1,387 now and I have 1,291. He is wild over it, but I guess I'm good for him anyway. We traded for a lot today, but no very good ones. I found a man with a block of 3c. Executive and he said he'd sell it for fifteen dollars if he could get it today because he wanted to buy something or other. I went down to Mr. Water's office and told him I knew who had a block and would sell it and a foreign, I knew he didn't have in those I got, for twenty dollars. Mr. Waters is getting blocks and wanted them bad, but he hated to pay so big for them, but I told him what the feller said about only selling because he wanted the money today, and how fine they were, so he said he'd take them. He gave me the money and I bought the stamps for him. Then I went down and paid Pop, and asked him if he didn't want to go get some ice cream with me I'd treat. The clerks nearly rigged him to death, till he gave me back a quarter to shake me, so Willy and I had three soda waters apiece. I've been wanted all summer to see how many glasses I could drink at once.

July 27.—We did a big business today. Sold some stamps off that sheet we made up and bought up a lot cheap from other fellows who don't care much for them now. Then we started a new baseball nine and got only fellows with collections in it. Willy and me made a big talk about it and got the fellows stirred up, and then we said we would have to have caps alike and nice ones. They didn't like that, for none of them have any money now, but Willy and me said we would buy all the caps, and they could pay for them in stamps. We put it through this afternoon and hauled in an elegant lot of stamps. This business is awful easy.

July 28.—If these older fellows would form a stamp club they would save a lot. Willy and I called on all the older fellows we could today, looked at their stamps and got the prices they would sell their good traders for. Then we would say to another man what we could get him this or that stamp for, and made a lot of bargains. I struck pop for ten dollars again and he handed it over without a word. Then we went the round again, and when we quit we had made three dollars and forty cents. That's the beauty of knowing everybody that collects.

July 29.—We had another big count up today. Willy has got 1,402 and I've got 1,340. Only two days to beat him in, and he's got a grin on him like a Chinese monkey. All right, let him grin.

July 30.—I took my share of that money we made Saturday and I got a couple of packets and a lot of one cent stamps, that I didn't have. I got a good many out of the packets and then hustled around for all I was worth trading the rest. Willy felt so sure about being ahead that he bought a lot of truck to eat and went off with the boys swimmin' and spent the afternoon. I ran my collection up to 1,392, and if the fellows don't tell Willy about the trading I'll kill him tomorrow night.

July 31.—I beat him! Gee, we had a time tho. He got onto my trades and went down and bought a lot, too, on the sly, but I was right onto him and I hustled around to that book sharp's and sold him a couple ofmy books dirt cheap. Then I made out a big list of cheap stuff I needed and sent Bess down with it and the money. Willy came over and stayed all the afternoon so as he could keep his eye on me and

(Continued on page 120.)

THE HOME WORKER.

FENTON & BOYD, Editors and Publishers.
KNOXVILLE, TENN.

Issued Monthly at 25c a Year in Advance

SAMPLE COPY FREE.

CIRCULATION, 2000.

ADVERTISING RATES are 25c per inch, payable in advance. For prices and discounts on long time ads., write for our special Rate card.

Remittances should be made by Express Money Order, or Post Office Money Order, payable to the order of Fenton & Boyd or by Registered Letter. Either of the above forms insures absolute safety from losses by mail.

We wish to exchange two copies with Philatelic publishers.

Address, **THE HOME WORKER,**
P. O. Box 25, Knoxville, Tenn., U. S. A

The Following Speaks for Itself

KNOXVILLE, TENN., Oct., 6. 1896. —To Editor of HOME WORKER: In answer to my small ad in your paper of July, I have received 14 letters. I am well pleased with results so far and expect to sell a few more duplicates, when my prices are better known, through the medium of the HOME WORKER. Charles Waring.

We are modest and will not say anything in our own favor but rely on the appearance of this number to sing our praises. What do you think of it, anyway? Is the new dress up to the latest Fall fashions? Are the articles sufficiently interesting to induce you tosend on that quarter for a year's subscription?

The Western Stamp, Vol. 1, No. 1 inserts the following:

"Watch out for the Standard Stamp Co.; they refuse to pay their advertising bills."

We cannot agree with the W. S. We have had dealings with the Standard Stamp Co., St. Louis, Mo., for some time and found them satisfactory. We sent them their last quarterly bill on the 18th of September and received a remittance by return mail.

Every collector should become a member of some philatelic society, which will afford you many advantages in stamp-collecting. Any brother collector or dealer will tell you of them. Why not ask?

The owners of fine unused specimens of the United States will feel gratified with the prices in the 57th catalogue. The increase in values, while over one-third in many instances, is not as large as last year but more evenly distributed and the appearance of the book should silence the frogs who have been croaking "the decadence of Philately." Many will regret that they did not avail themselves of the summer bargains and fill in some of those blank spaces in the earlier issues and Departments, as it will now require many an additional dollar to do so.

"The Price List of Entire United States Envelopes" of Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co. is quite a surprise in the matter of prices and those who are on the ragged edge of "entire" collecting should lose no time in procuring a copy and filling their wants, as we predict that in but a short time they will be unattainable at the prices now quoted.

JOHNNY'S DIARY.

(Continued from page 119.

see that I didn't get anything, but I had my stamps all right. Right afte supper he came over again with h' book to count up. He had 1,461, more than I thought he had, and it kinder scared me for fear Bess had made a slip. Then we counted my book, and it only made 1,443. Willy was standing on his head and snickering when I said, 'Oh, yes, I forgot I've got a few more that I haven't stuck in, and he nearly broke his neck getting down. I counted 'em up slow and comfortably, and they made my book 1,472.

Willy was pretty humpy over it, but I said I was going to beat him and I had, too. It's an easy game, anyhow. SUBURBAN.

The Mail Transportation in Japan and Her History.

BY PHIL HEINSBERGER, N. Y.

The flowery empire, the land of the rising sun, Japan, is located in Eastern Asia, and is composed of islands, including the newly conquered one, Formosa. It is supposed to have been founded in 1630 B. C. It has an area of 150,465 square miles, with a population of forty million of people. The mikado, as the emperor is called, opened the first Japanese parliament on November 29th, 1890, an event of supreme historical importance to oriental nations. Japan is a most ardent imitator of American and European customs and manners, and today the most enlightened and commercially advanced land in the east of Asia. The earliest date known in regard to postal matters is the year 1660. Until the year 1640 Japan "allowed" some Portuguese missionaries to work for the Roman Catholic religion, but in this year all ports of Japan were closed hermitically to "foreigners." The first "foreigner" who demanded admittance into the wonderful fairy-land was "Uncle Sam," the enterprising man! In the year 1854 the United States of America sent an embassy, accompanied by a naval squadron under command of Commodore Perry, to Japan. The glorious stars and stripes appeared in Japanese waters, and Commodore Perry declared that he would sail "and see" the capital Yeddo, but the Japanese came to terms. A commercial treaty was concluded and the ports of Hiogo, Osaka, Yokohama, Hakodate, Nangasaki and Niigata were opened to foreign commerce! From that time, after many obstacles, war with England, and interior revolutions, Japan has entered the way of enterprise and success, and at the present time, on account of the cheap but skilled labor, Japanese merchandise can compete with American and European work. A piece of so-called postal service was introduced in Japan in 1660 as a private mail delivery service, called the Japanese Delivery Union, established by business menw ho combined in all the more important cities, and delivered their own as well as private mail from people of the same city. They employed express messengers who from time to time made their run. Some runners had only letters, others parcels to deliver. Arrived at the next station, the Japanese merchants there had new runners ready, and so mail was quickly and reliably delivered. A private letter from Tokio to Osaka, 470 kilometres (one kilometre 5-8 of an English mile) cost at that time (1660) 40 cents, and today, by regular mail, only cents. The mail runner with his parcels, on both sides of beasts of burden, required seven days to make the journey, while runners with but letters only three days. Besides this commercial mail service there was also a Japanese government mail delivery system. The official mail runners from the capital Tokio, (in Japanese Yeddo), to cities in other provinces delivered government as well as private mail. For centuries this simple mail service did its duty, but in the year 1867 the great revolution made many changes in the people, and also in the postal service. From the time that foreigners settled in Japan, in 1855, some nations had established their own postoffices; the "stupid" government had allowed this, and the foreigners took all the advantages of it, including Uncle Sam, England and France. Stamp collectors can now sell United States stamps cancelled in Tokio, Yokohama, mailed by the United States postal agencies in those cities. This agency also mailed letters along the coast to other cities, and was patronized largely by the natives and other foreigners. The English postoffice in Yokohama only delivered mail to its customers in the city. The French postoffice had the same privileges as the English office. Germany did not have a regular postal agency at Yokohama, but mail for Germany could be brought to the German mail steamers. But with German postage stamps, which were cancelled by the German official on board the steamers. All the above named foreign postoffices had to close in the year of 1871-72 when Japan re-

organized her mail service. An American boy being selected as postal reformer, the government having engaged the services of a United States postal officer named T. M. Bryan, who remodelled the service on the American plan. In all important cities postoffices were opened and postal stations all over the different islands of the empire established. In 1890 Japan made very important improvements tries, and now the Japanese mail service, interior and exterior, is a first-class one. The first series of postage stamps appeared in the year 1871, and these stamps (the old time Mon value) are very scarce. The mail runners have no easy task, they must swim rivers, cross mountains and conquer other obstacles in the interior, there being practically no roads and the work is much harder and the pay much less than falls to the lot of the United States carriers. While Uncle Same had to close his postoffice in 180 the stars and stripes are still seen at the United States postoffice in Shanghai, China. That office is now employed as a mail changing point for Asiatic countries and letters mailed there must bear United States postage stamps. In 1895, as a result of the war between Japan and China, victorious Japan acquired the isind of Formosa and extended her mail service to the new territory and now only the regular Japanese postage stamps circulate there. In the year 1877 Japan became a member of the Universal Postal Union.

Advise to Young Collectors.

(By Lorenzo G. Yates, F. L. S.)

Study your stamps; examine each carefully; note any peculiarities of color, shade, paper, perforation, or water mark, you will be likely to lise or miss marks, although you may not intend to collect the different water marks. many opportunities for obtaining desirable additions to your collection if you neglect to learn all you can about such stamps as may come into your hands, and inadvertently throw away many opportunities for enhancing its value by neglecting to make yourself by my own experience with a few acquainted with everything which comes to hand.

I was induced to make these remarks stamps recently sent to me from one of the British colonies.

When received I looked them over and selected for my album such as at a glance I recognized as new to me; the others I laid aside to give away or exchange.

A short time after I had made the selectoin I happened to hold one of the supposed duplicates in such a way as to show the watermark, which seemed peculiar, and, on referring to my "stamp catalogue," I found that instead of this particular stamp being valued at two cents it was by virtue of an error in the watermark, priced at three dollars.

This discovery caused me to examine the others, which resulted in the discovery of several other peculiarities of watermark, indicating issues of different dates, and increasing their value in some instances from one cent, the price of the ordniary stamp, to $1.25, sixty cents, twelve cents, etc., and I soon found that instead of my friend having sent me common stamps of no special value to me, they were uncommon and nearly all new to my collection, and although I had not cared for varieties of watermarks, I realized the fact that these stamps would be of value to some of my friends, who have more time at their command for philatelic study.

I then soaked the paper off the backs of some of the stamps mounted in my album and found them of different issues from those to which I had assigned them.

Then I looked through some of my packages of duplicates and found others which were entitled to be distinguished from the common run of stamps.

Many other illustrations might be given from personal experience, but this must suffice for thepresent paper.

PAPER.

The kinds of paper generally used for printing stamps and envelopes are Wove, Laid, Batonne, Quadrille, Verge, Carton or Thick, Old, Colored Mince or Thin, Silk Thread, Watermarked, Native, Rice, Manila, Straw, Papier

Moire, and Gold-beater's Skin.

Wove paper is perfectly plain or unwatermarked, and is therefore of uniform texture, though it may vary in thickness from tissue paper to cardboard. It is usually employed for books and newspapers and is the kind on which the stamps of the United States are printed.

Laid paper shows close parallel lines watermarked on its surface. These are produced by corresponding raised wires on the surface of the dandy roll which revolves on the top of the pulp in the process of manufacture, and which makes the paper thinner at the point of contact.

Batonne resembles what is sometimes called foreign note paper, having quite visible parallel lines watermarked in it, though much farther apart than in laid paper, and which serve as a guide in writing. It may be either laid or wove.

Quadrille is paper in which the watermarked lines cross each other and form squares or oblong rectangles. See stamps of Guadalajara, 1867-8.

Verge denotes laid paper in which the watermarked lines run in an oblique direction, such as that seen in the envelopes of Holland, 1885; St. Domingo 1883.

Carton is paper of a heavy texture, resembling thin cardboard. See stamps of Rampour.

Mince is of a very light, thin texture, such as is used in the stamps of Turkey, issue of January 1, 18..2.

Silk thread is a designation given to paper which has fine red or blue silk threads through it, which have been mixed with the pulp. Many United States revenue, match and medicine stamps are printed on paper of this kind Sometimes the threads are at regular intervals, as in the stamps of Bavaria, 1850 to 1857, and Switzerland 1854.

Old is applied to paper having an old appearance, and is used when referring to that used in the first emission of United States match and medicine stamps.

Colored indicates the paper may be colored blue, pink, etc., though the paper itself may be of any of the kinds mentioned. See stamps of Corrientes, Finland, 1866-7-8, and Prussia, 1850.

Watermarked paper is so called when it contains letters, characters, crests, arms or other devices produced by means of raised wires in the form desired on the dandy-roll, as in the stamps of Egypt, 1866, Straits Settlements, India, etc.

Native is a kind of paper of varying thickness, principally made by hand and on which the printing is usually indistinct. See stamps of native Indian states, first emissions, and Afghanistan.

Rice paper is made from rice straw, and has a fine silky appearance, being soft and smooth to the touch. See stamps of Japan, 1871-2.

Manilla is made from manila grass. See United States envelopes. October 1, 1886.

Straw is that which is made from the straw of any grain; as the Canada wrappers, 1882.

Papier Moire is a term applied to paper having wavy, undulating lines upon it, giving it the appearance of being watered like Moire Antique silk, See stamps of Mexico, 1872; Spain and Cuba, 1875.

Gold-beater's Skin is a transparent parchment-like skin, used by goldbeaters to wrap around the gold during the process of beating, it being tough and not easily torn. See stamps of Prussia, 1866, 10 and 30 silbergroshen.

A. PALETTE.

—Item.

Experiences of a Young Philatelist.

BY W. L. KENSELL

In the year 1890 I first began to collect the little bits of paper called stamps. I was at the time agent for rubber stamps, and seeing an ad. in the Youth's Companion with the word "stamps" in large letters I resolved to send for their price list. I did so and in a few days received a price-list and lot of the "stamps," which, to my great surprise, was not the kind I had been looking for. I at once took another view of the "adv." and noticed that it was a mistake of my own. The ad. was for postage

stamps rather than rubber ones, and I was rather downhearted because of my own negligence. Another day passed and again to my surprise I received a letter (and it was a fat one too) containing some pictures of public heads, etc., with a fine array of scroll work around the so-called "picture." These "pictures" were in all colors, signs and kinds. I then thought of the circulars I had received the day before and noticing that both were from the same company proceeded to find out what I had before me. Perhaps the reader will think me "green," but I will say that the stamps were Heligolands—Spanish and the like. The circular explained about postage stamps I knew, but the thought of any one sending me such a thing never entered my mind as being possible. At last after inquiries were made I found that there were such people that collected as many old stamps as possible just from the pleasure derived therefrom. This was the beginning of my stamp career. I from time to time sent for such things as "approval sheets," not understanding fully the meaning of such phrases. As the week went by I grew more and more interested in the collection of these little "bits." The idea struck me that perhaps my friends had such things on their old letters and I began inquiring after them. Of course relatives took enough interest in me to get such stamps as they could off their old letters and they accumulated very fast on my hands. My grandmother had, when young, and since then saved stamps for a Boston lady who was to go to the "Old Ladies' Home" as soon as she had collected a million. However, as she had never sent them to her for various reasons, I had this accumulation given me, which consisted of nearly forty thousand stamps. I will remember the eve I opened that old cigar box, emptied out its contents and began looking over the pile. At last the idea struck me that picking out one of each variety would be a novel one and accordingly I did so. I have those "varieties" that were picked out that winter's eve in my possession today. They number sixty-seven and now catalogue over one hundred and sixty dollars. Among them is a Providence 10 cent black, 24 cent and 90 cent used specimens of the 1869 issue and numerous others. Well, as the time goes on many changes take place all over the land and so it was with me. I frequented the banks, stores and other business places in the town. I happened into an insurance office to remove the stamps from letters in Mr. C.'s waste basket one day a few weeks after I had come into possession of the aforementioned. There happened also another gentleman, a friend of Mr. C.'s, in the office at the same time and for the same purpose. After talking over the topics of the hour we at last came to the subject of stamps. I found that he was only collecting for a lady friend who was nearing the million mark already. The question he next put forth was one that has indented itself into my mind and seems to be there to stay. He inquired whether or not I wished to sell my stamps I had gathered together.

I was not overanxious to part with my treasures for they were beginning to form a strong friendship with me. I soon learned that at ten cents per one thousand would give me nearly five dollars. "Gee whiz!" I thought. Why were they worth that amount to him? And numerous other questions entered my mind. He then said as I was about to depart to consult my parents. "I will give you an even five dollars for the lot." That stirred my blood still more, and after a few moments' talk with my people decided to let them go. I was a proud boy when, after delivering my collateral and collecting charges for same I held that "V" in my hand which was thrust deep into my trousers pocket. The time passed on. I received more stampic matter and I with that "V" was as proud as any business man that ever walked the streets of N. About a month after that (well you know) it began to burn in my pocket. I resolved to put it into "good use." The postmaster was visited and a letter containing that unfortunate "V" was sent on its way to a well noted stamp dealer. I had sent for a $1.50 Int. album and had simply added—'please give me the remainder of he enclosed five dollars in good, pretty stamps.' In a week after the order had been sent I received

the album and of all the stamps that were with it. I thought that paradise had showered down her whole postal issue upon me. There were stamps from about every country in Central America, also Ecuador and many others, and mind you, all were unused. The next few days were spent in pasting them into the book I had received with mucilage. I enjoyed showing my album to the callers my mother received from time to time and many were the praises bestowed upon me. The next eventful move I made was to cut the colored illustrations from a western stamp magazine and past them into my new book of "paradise beauties" (?) One more move I made I shall never forget and it taught me a lesson. I answered an advertisement with a heading like this: "$24.50 for only $5." But where the five dollars was coming from I knew not. I therefore concluded that it was a useless task to undertake to send for that bargain (?) But in the meantime I lost no time. I did errands and the like until I had nearly four doars. My parents made up the rest but advised me not to put too much money into stamps at present. I knew best (?) of course. I sent for the twenty-four dollar bargains (?) and perhaps didn't myself in going to the postoffice looking for that packet. I am looking yet! Once more I had been taken in, and that party is still in existence with a fraudulent reputation. I began to realize the necessity of keeping my eyes open and I profited by the past transactions. And so is the life of most beginners. My advice to the young collector is to trade with thoroughly reliable dealers and let alone all these ads with suchheadlines as the above mentioned. Be as careful as though you were carrying on the business of some railroad official and you will come out O. K. Now going back to my "V" I will state that I will remember the rarities I passed over. I had sorted out the different kinds as best I could of about seven or eight thousand and one pile I remember containing high values as 15, 24, 30 and 90 centers. If today I had that accumulation I sold for that "V" I should have something to be proud of. But as the old saying is "'tis best not to cry over spilt milk" I shall pass that by. But nevertheless what I have learned in the past six years is something to be proud of and if every one has the same experience that I had he will profit thereby enough to make up for the amount lost. Many other similar instances I could relate but will not bother this time. I shall in the future try and give the readers of this magazine a few notes occasionally that will perhaps be of interest to them. Such notes as those found in publications that the young collector cannot afford to purchase there being so many. And so ends the narrative of what profited me so much.

About Catalogues.

(Written for the Home Worker.)

In the August number of the Texan Philatelist appears an article with its heading as above The writer, "Keras," gives his views in relation to our present catalogues. He likewise gives his objections. He says:

"It does not seem right for the stamp-collecting public to be forced to adopt the prices of a single company as standard prices."

Now how in the world are we forced to take any catalogue as standard prices! I can't see through it. To be sure, we usually mark our stamps according to some catalogue, but I am positive that the writer of the article referred to has never purchased a stamp that was not—well, at least 10 per cent. below the catalogue figure, and more often at a greater per cent. below. At least such has been my experience

The author further adds: "I think that another cause of complaint is the rapid way in which certain stamps rise in value."

His main point of argument seems to lie in the fact that in ——'s catalogue many stamps have jumped to prices a 100 per cent. higher than in the ——th edition, and advises that the catalogue be issued once in two years. as it would then check the price of stamps from getting out of our reach. I admit that certain stamps tremendously increase (?) in value (price), but can we put a check on their increasing? No, we cannot! I cannot see

how a catalogue issued every two years, or even every five years, would fill the bill any better than the one we are now using, for then the stamps which do increase would augment so much faster; i. e., twice as much, or five times as much, as the case may be. Such, at least, are my "views."

JULIUS L. COHN.

A Beginner's Error.

It is customary to say that "advice is cheap" and that the person giving it would not follow his own teachings.

"Experience is a dear teacher," and often the beginner of a stamp collection will spend quite a sum buying the cheaper packets, hoping to obtain a few new varieties for his collection, but finding only a lot of duplicates which every other collector has in larger or smaller quantities, and being unable to trade them to advantage, feels that he has been cheated and that there is nothing in stamp collecting. This is a very common error and one that should be rectified. If beginning a collection you should try and secure a few sample copies of different stamp papers and subscribe to one or two and by reading them closely become informed as to the methods of others, also read carefully the advertisements and by so doing you will soon become able to tell a reliable dealer, whom you can trust to treat you right and not sell you "trash" and tell you you are getting a "big bargain," and rely on your ignorance of stamps to help him in taking your good money.

Find a reliable dealer and buy a packet of 500 or 1,000 varieties, which will make a good start for a collection and then buy from approval sheets, thus obtaining only such stamps as you may not already have or better still, join one or two good philatelic societies and get your name upon the exchange department, from which you can buy stamps at better prices, generally, than most dealers will make you, the stamps upon the circuits being the property of other collectors who wish to sell their duplicates so as to be able to buy other stamps which they may need to fill some vacant space in their album.

A good many collectors advertise that they wish to exchange stamps with other collectors in foreign countries or distant cities, and sometimes this way is satisfactory, but often you think the other collector has cheated you or got the best of the deal and you are dissatisfied, you then try some one else, perhaps the result is even worse, and then you begin to think that all other stamps collectors are rogues, who want to cheat you, as a sequence you are afraid to trust any one, and with this feeling rankling in your breast, you lose interest and quit. To such, I would say, be careful and if ever you have a dealing with any collector who tries to cheat you, have nothing more to do with him, but above all, be honest yourself, and you will help swell the ranks of honest and true philatelists.

BEN AHAMO.

Flemington, N. J., Sept. 15, 1896.

Editor of The Home Worker:

Dear Sir: On the first page of The Home Worker for August and September I notice a paragraph referring to the United States envelopes surcharged for use by the Postoffice Department of the Confederate States. There are several sizes and shapes of the 1853 and 1857 issues that were on hand at the postoffice in the Southern States at the breaking out of the war which were turned over by the postmasters to the Confederate Postoffice Department which used them as we now use the penalty envelopes. They are worth from $1 to $5, each depending on condition and variety.

Very truly,

H. E. DEATS.

The Nova Scotian find mentioned in our issue last month is "the" sensation in Philatelic circles. There are about 200,000 stamps, 52,000 1 cent, 54,000 2 cents, 28,000 10 cents, 54,000 8 1-2 cents and 12,000 12 1-2 cents—the last two on yellow paper.

Prices have fallen in consequence and the heretofore scarce 8 1-2 cents can be bought for $2.50, and even that price is excessive.

Ripans Tabules cure nausea.

Boston Correspondence.

E. B. HORN.

Once more the season of auction sales has begun. Our opening sale was one by Mr. Drew, of auction fame, last year. Many good stamps were contained in this sale, though no great rarities were offered.

Boy collectors too ften become discouraged after collecting a short time on account of the great number of varieties and expense involved. This is not the way to do. Simply keep on collecting, even if your collection does not grow fast enough for you. Stick to it, and you will never regret it, as our more experienced philatelists can testify.

It is a good plan for all collectors to subscribe to at least one or two good stamp papers, such as the Home Worker. In this way you learn of new issues, etc. and also see the many bargains offered in the advertising columns of the periodical.

Never collect or purchase badly cancelled, torn, or otherwise imperfect specimens. Always buy clean, lightly postmarked stamps. Unused ones are preferable if they can be obtained, as they are prettier and increase in value much more quickly than used specimens.

Foreign Notes.

BY LEON G. LAMBERT.

Here we are again, another commemorative issue. This time it commemorates "The Apotheosis of the General-in-Chief Francisco and Mirando." The stamps are issued by order of the Minister of Public Instruction of the republic of Venezuela, and the number limited to four millions. In size they are a little larger than our Columbian stamps and bear the map of Venezuela. The values are as follows:

750,000 5 centimos, green.
750,000 10 centimos, blue.
1,500,000 25 centimos, yellow.
500,000 50 centimos, red.
500,000 1 bolivar, violet.

These stamps, issued July 5, 1896, will be receivable for postage until November 3, 1896.

The Duke of York has been elected president of the London Philatelic Society. This ought to be a sufficent answer to those who still talk and write of stamp collectors as maniacs at large.

It is the intention of M. Henry Boucher, minister of Commerce, Telegraph and Posts of the French Republic to suppress certain values of French stamps, which experience shows are little used. The following are some of the condemned:

1. The 75 centimes stamp.
2. The 5 centimes envelope (large).
3. The 1 centimes envelope (small).
4. The 3 centimes newspaper wrapper.
5. The 60 centimes due stamp.
6. The 1 franc due stamp.

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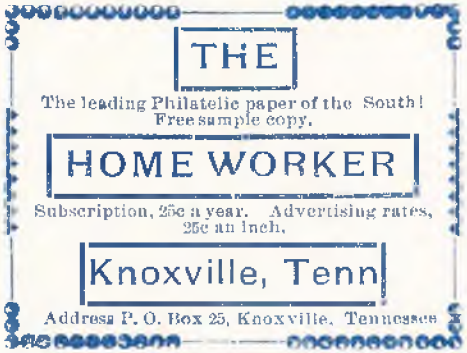
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